

INFORMATION FOR THE PRESS

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64 SOUTH CAROLINA HUNTERS ARRESTED IN DRIVE TO HALT UNLAWFUL HUNTING OF DOVES

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Fifty-three of 64 hunters apprehended in South Carolina during September by State game wardens and U. S. deputy game wardens for violation of mourning dove hunting laws have been assessed fines totaling \$1,220 by State courts, according to a report received by the U. S. Biological Survey. The 11 other hunters are awaiting trial.

Most of the arrests were made in Spartanburg County, where 48 hunters were caught shooting doves over baited areas. Eight hunters in Union County and 4 in Greenville County were also apprehended for the same offense. Four persons were fined for shooting the birds in Richland County in close season.

In South Carolina the dove hunting season in Aiken, Edgefield, McCormick, Greenwood, Abbeville, Anderson, Oconee, Pickens, Greenville, Laurens, Spartanburg, Cherokee, Union, Fairfield, Chester, and York Counties is from September 1 to 30 and December 20 to January 31. In other counties the season runs from November 20 to January 31.

Doves, the Biological Survey points out, are among the migratory birds protected by both Federal and State laws, and the Federal enforcement authorities have been working in close cooperation with A. A. Richardson, Chief of the South Carolina Department of Game and Fish, and the State wardens.

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